



Team Nighthawk



Platoon Patrol Base
Operations



Primary Training Objective



- Task: Conduct patrol base operations
- Conditions:
 - Platoon-size element
 - During hours of limited visibility
 - Wooded and sparsely vegetated terrain
- Standards: Patrol Base occupied IAW FM 7-8, Chapter 3, Section V.
Security operations conducted consistent with METT-TC and FRAGO.



Day 1 Battle Rhythm



0830-1000: Introduction to SQD STX/Movement to PBs

1000-0430: Patrol Base Classes

Link Up Operations/PE

Patrol Base Fundamentals/PE

Patrol Base Occupation/PE

Priorities of Work Classes/PE

Range Card and Sector Sketches/PE

AAR

Squad SOP collective training

Day Patrol Base Occupation PE

Night Patrol Base Occupation FRAGO

Priorities of Work/Rest Plan

0430-0515: Stand-to/prep for Day STX

0530-0600: Link up with STX TE/Commence lanes



Nighthawk Battle Rhythm



1800-UTC: Complete Lanes

- Link Up Operations by Squad

- Receive Mission

- Troop Leading Procedures

- Leader's recon

- Patrol Base Occupation

- Priorities of Work

- AAR

- Rest Plan

0430: 100% Alert Plan

0530: Link up with STX T/E/Commence
lanes



Concept: Additive Night Ops

Day/Night 1:

“What Right Looks Like”

- Link Up Ops
- Occupation of PB
- Priorities of Work
- Conduct AAR

Night 4:

Night 1,2 and 3:

- Fully Cadet Led
- AAR

Night 2:

Night 1 plus:

- Increased threat
- Priorities of work cont.
- R/S Patrols
- Alternate P/B
- Squad Sector Sketches
- Cache Re-supply
- Emplace Claymore Mine

Night 3:

Nights 1 and 2 plus:

- Increased threat
- Platoon Sector Sketches
- Plan for Indirect Fire

Night 5:

- Prep for movement to FOB
- Regimental Control



Linkup

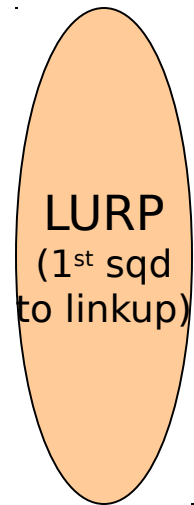
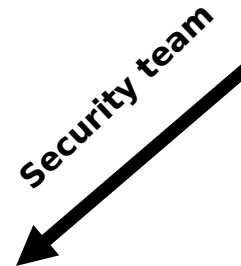
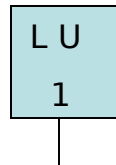
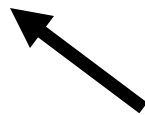
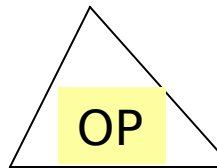


Overview

- A linkup is a meeting of friendly ground forces.
- Linkups depend on control, detailed planning, and stealth.
- Linkup procedures begin as the unit moves to the linkup point.
- The first squad to the linkup site is responsible for establishing the linkup rally point (LURP).
- The LURP is approximately 300 meters from the actual linkup point. The LURP is established in the same manner as the ORP, and is the actual location where the entire platoon will consolidate.
- This initial squad is also responsible for establishing the actual linkup point.
- The linkup point is the specific location where security teams (A TL and 1 cadet) from each squad will meet.



Establish LURP



- The security team clears the area around the linkup point.
- The security team marks the linkup point with the coordinated recognition (VS-5 panel, PT belt, mini-chemlite)
- The security team moves to a vantage point (OP) where they can observe linkup point.



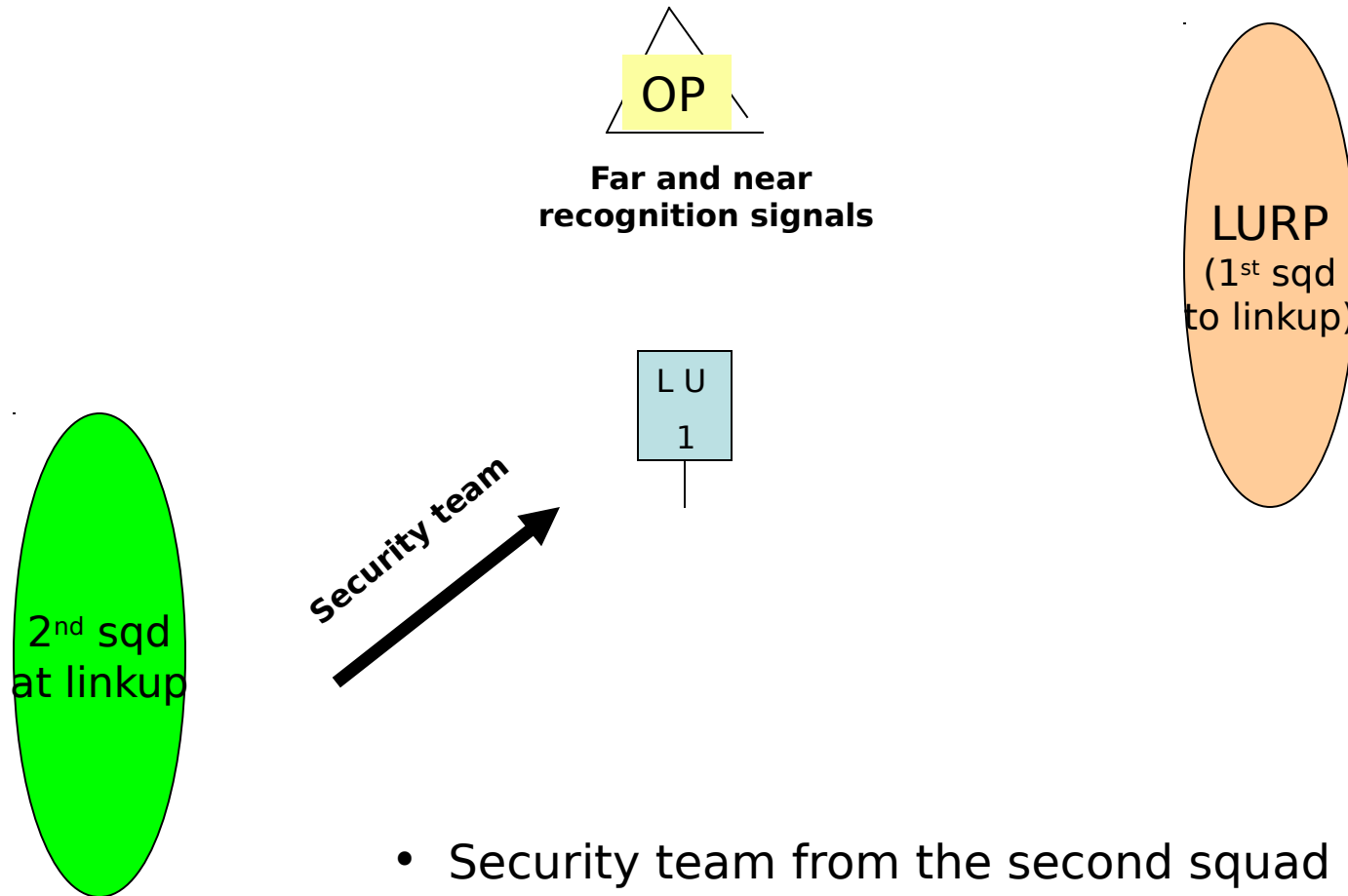
Link Up Procedures



- Upon arrival at the linkup site, the second squad to the site establishes a halt and sends a security team (A TL and a cadet) to the linkup point.
- When the second squad's security team arrives at the linkup point, they give a far recognition signal. The far recognition signal is given in paragraph 5 of the OP order, or can be in the platoon SOP. (Examples are: waving PT belt or VS-panel, commo, 2 flashes of a flashlight answered by 3, etc.)
- The first team (in the OP) responds to the far recognition signal. The second security team then moves to the first security team's location at their OP.
- The two teams then exchange near recognition signals (number combination)



Link Up Continued



- Security team from the second squad moves to linkup
- Security teams exchange recognition signals.



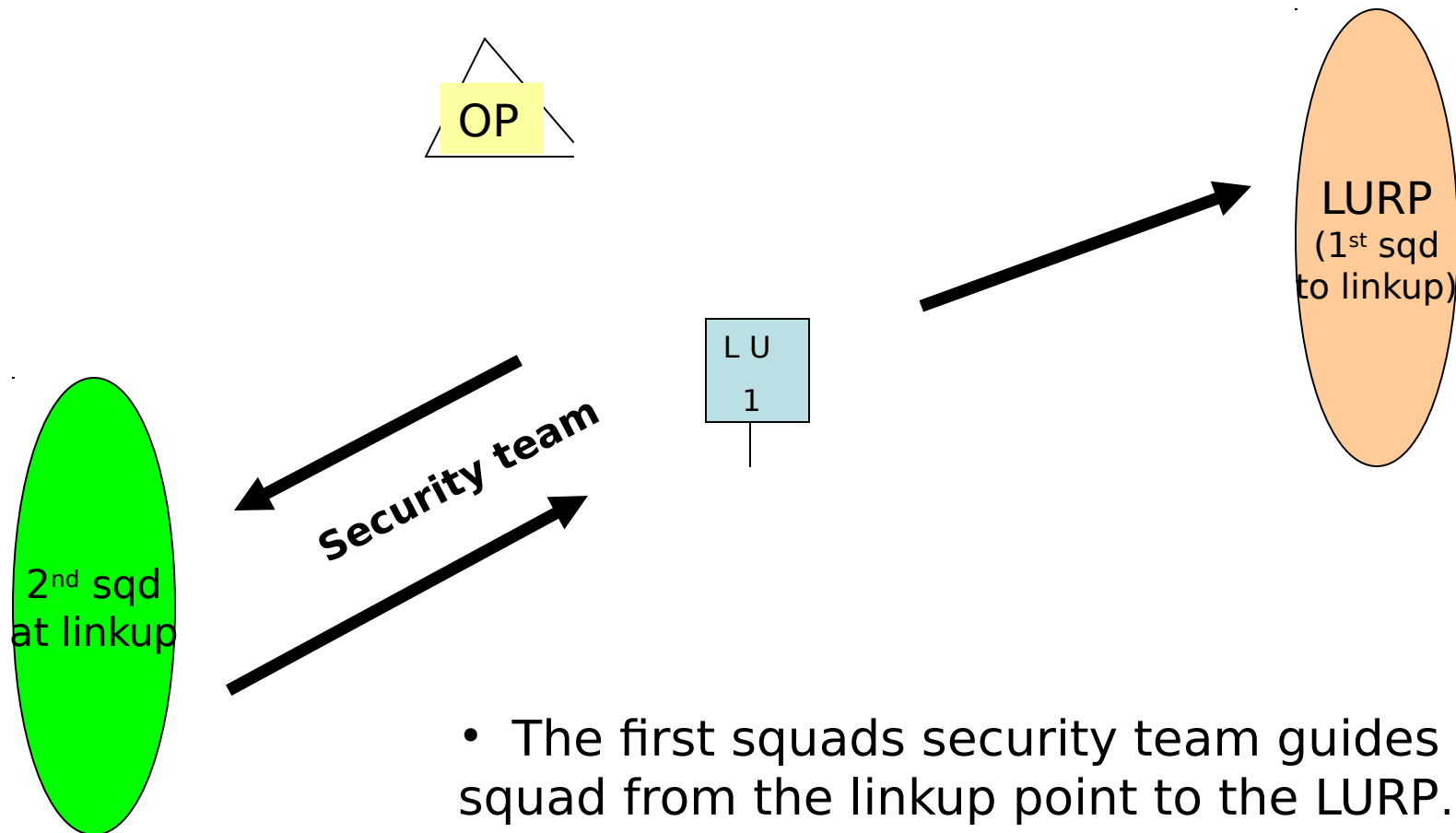
Link Up Continued



- The second security team moves back to bring the rest of their element to Linkup point. When they all arrive at the linkup point, the first security team them to the LURP.
- When the second squad arrives at the LURP, they are integrated into the s plan.
- If additional squads must linkup with the platoon, the security element from squad returns to the linkup point and repeats the process.



Link Up Continued

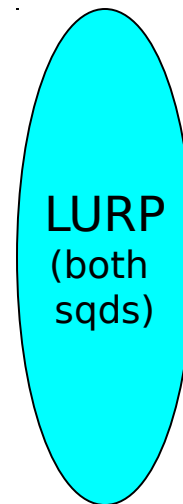
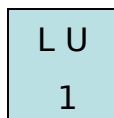
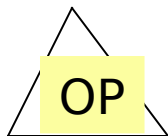




Link Up



Continued



- The security team from the initial squad at the LURP moves back to the OP to receive the remainder of the platoon.



Patrol Base Fundamentals



- A secure position established when a patrol halts for an extended period of time forward of friendly lines
- Not occupied for more than a 24-hour period
- Never occupied twice
- Squad or Platoon Sized



Patrol Base Purpose



- Avoid detection
- Maintain soldiers, weapons and equipment
- Plan and issue orders
- Prepare for follow on operations



Terrain Considerations



- Terrain of little tactical value
- Terrain that avoids natural lines of drift
- Difficult terrain that would impede movement
- Area of dense vegetation
- Area remote from human habitation
- Defendable Terrain
- Avoid known or suspected enemy positions
- Avoid built up areas
- Avoid roads, trails, steep slopes and small valleys



Security Measures



- LP/OPs
- Reconnaissance and Security Patrols
- Defense plan of patrol base
- Withdrawal routes
- Alert plans
- OPSEC/COMSEC
- Early warning devices
- Camouflage, noise, light, litter discipline
- Minimum movement within patrol base



Patrol Base Occupation



Security

- **Security Halt**
Prepare leader's recon team
Issue GOTWA plan

Leader's recon should consist of :

Leadership, Communications, and Security

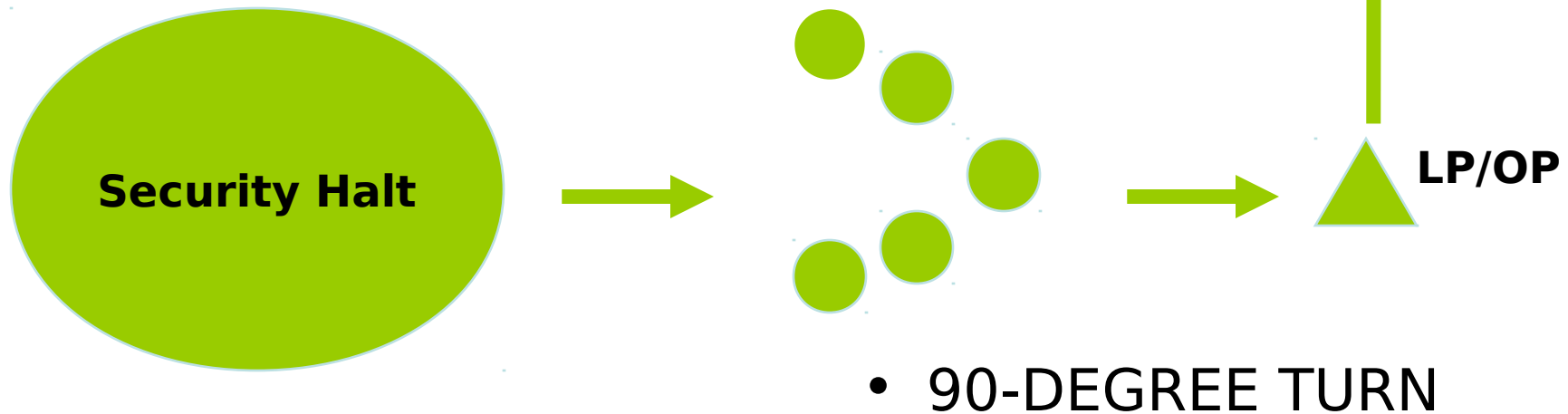
*ie --PL, RTO, Lead TL, Compass, Trail TL & RM, WPNS
SQD LDR and 3 AGs*



Patrol Base Occupation



Leaders Recon



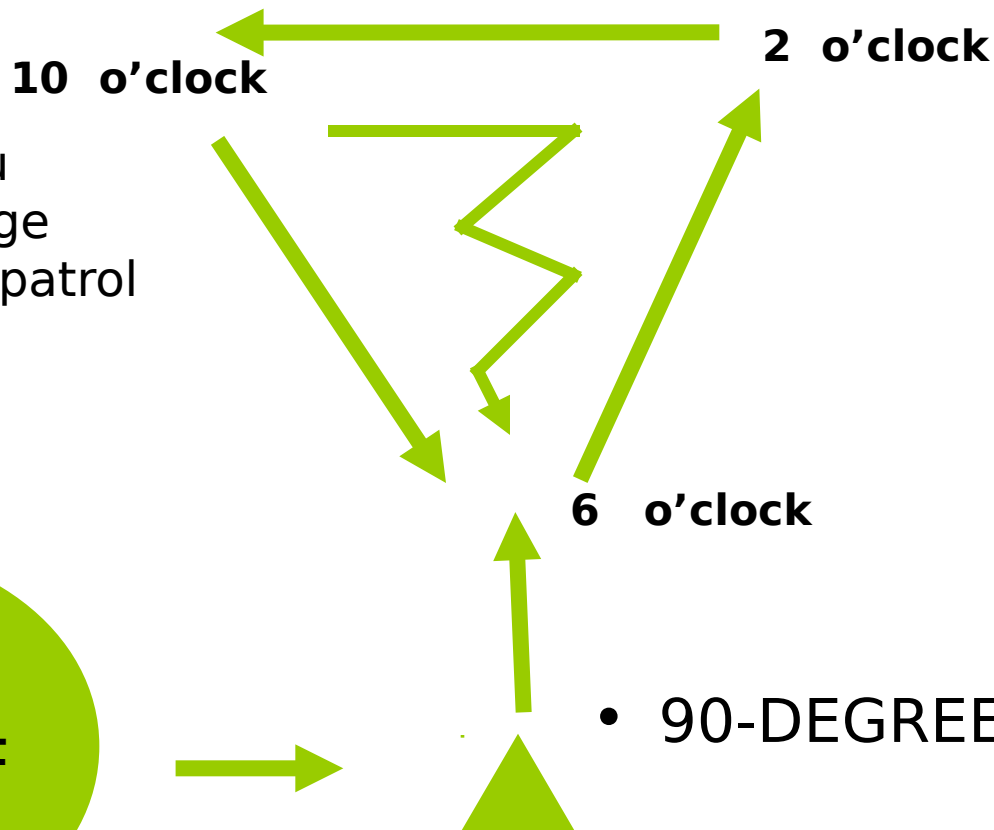


Clearing the Patrol Base



Clearing

Note: ensure you clear an area large enough for your patrol to occupy



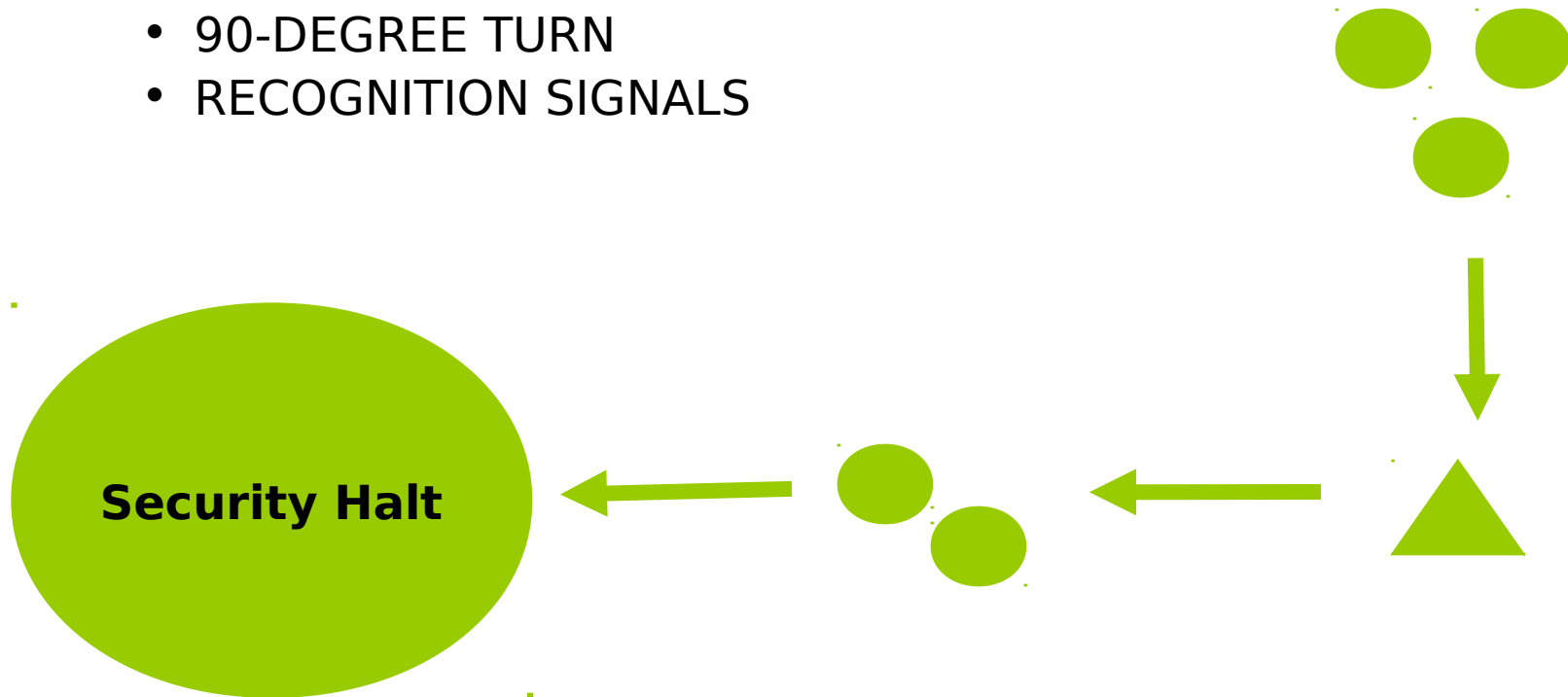


Patrol Base Occupation



Leaders Recon Returns

- GOTWA
- 90-DEGREE TURN
- RECOGNITION SIGNALS

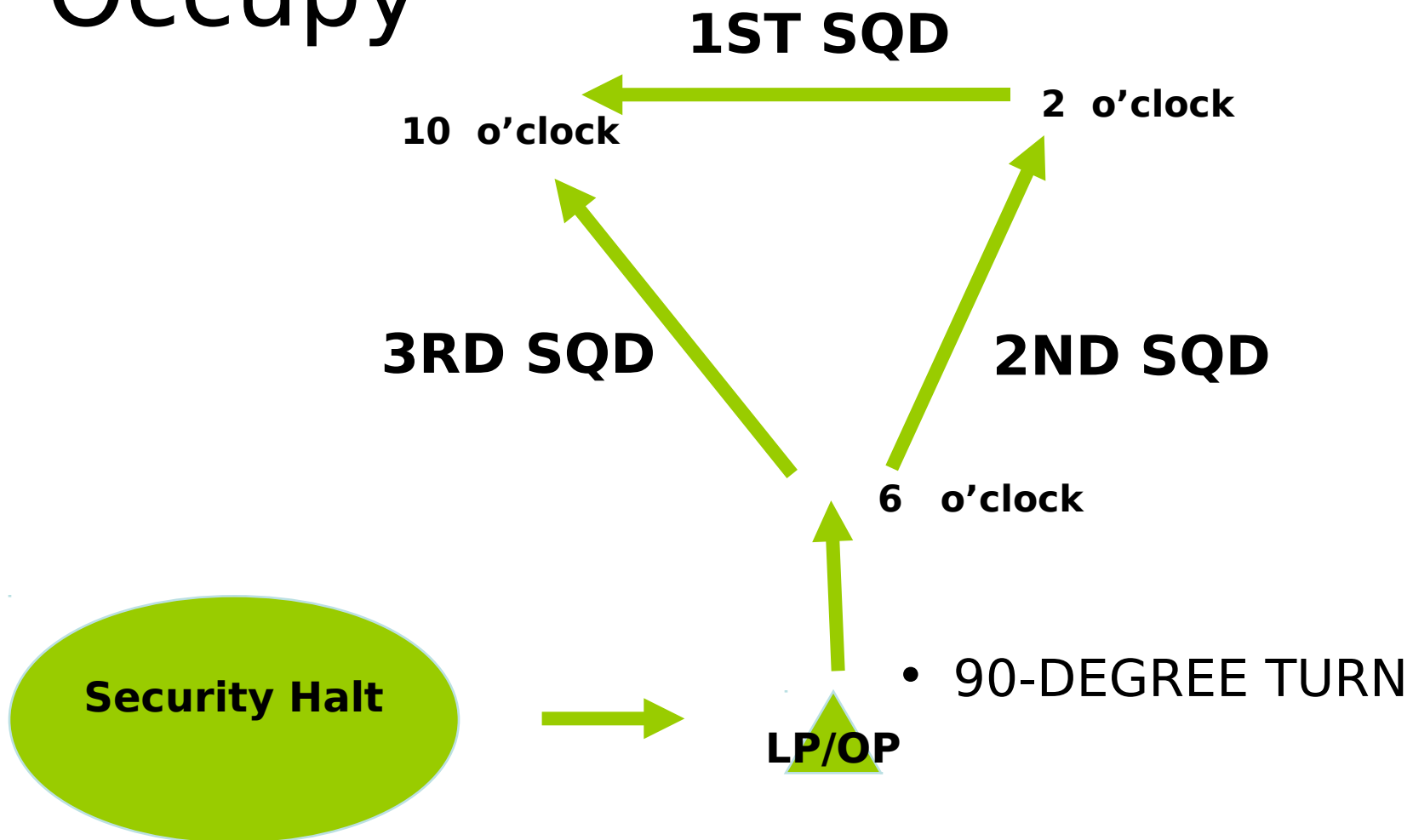




Patrol Base Occupation



Occupy





Establish PB



- Begins after Stop, Look, Listen, Smell (SLLS)
- Report location/SITREP to higher
- Adjust perimeter
- Assemble R&S team(s)
- Launch R&S teams
- Confirm site (no longer tentative at this point)
- Establish sector sketches



Priorities of Work



- ✓ Security is 1st and Continuous
- ✓ Range cards and Sector sketches
- ✓ Weapons and equipment maintenance
- ✓ Water resupply
- ✓ Pre-combat checks (PCCs) and Inspections (PCIs)
- ✓ Sanitation
- ✓ Personal hygiene (to include foot checks by medic)
- ✓ Mess (chow)
- ✓ Rest

Note-Security is always 1st priority, after that it is METT-TC dependent



Range Card

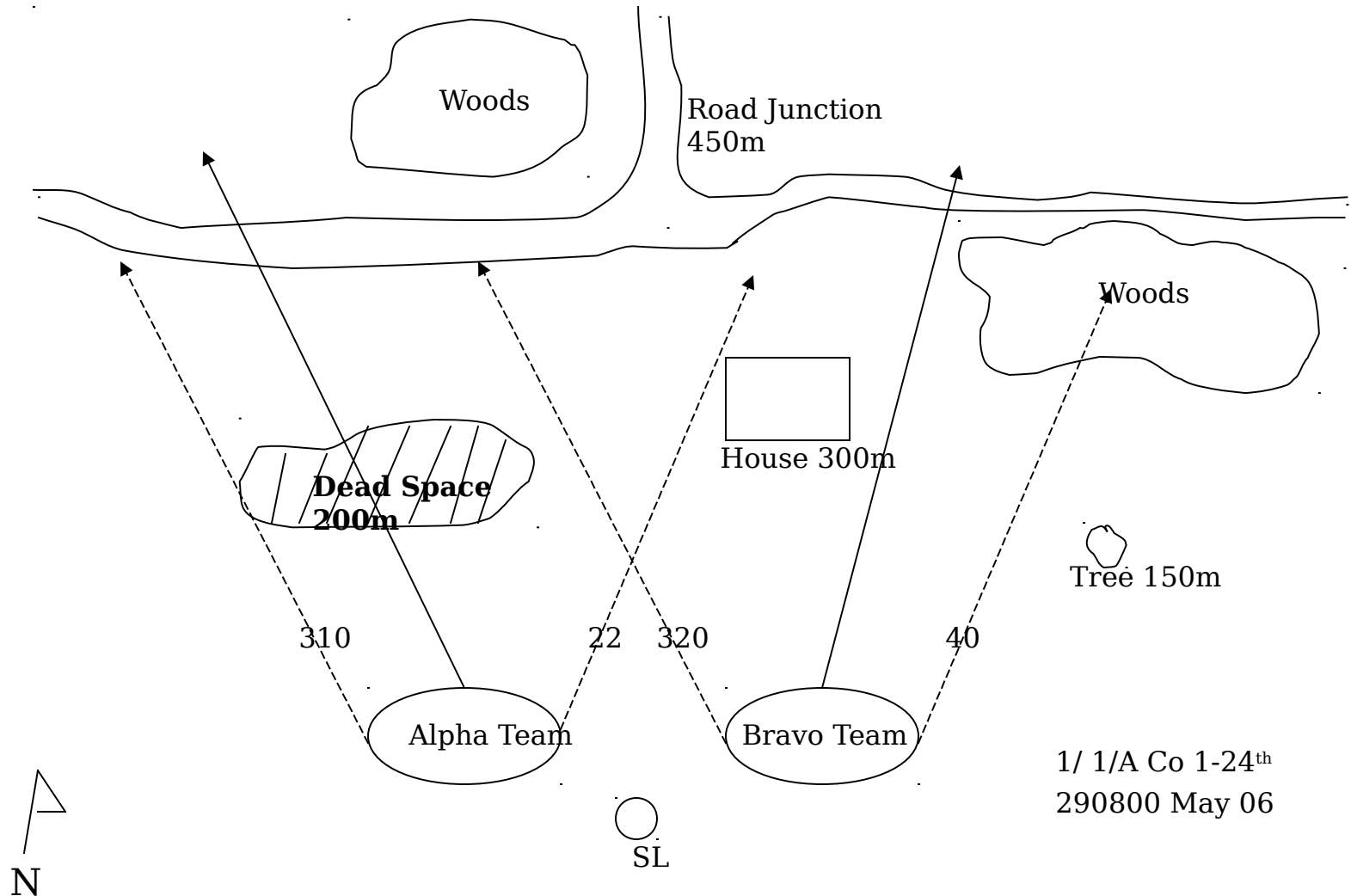


RANGE CARD PREPARATION					
SQD _____		May be used for all types of direct fire weapons		MAGNETIC NORTH	
PLT _____					
CO _____					
DATA SECTION					
POSITION IDENTIFICATION				DATE	
WEAPON			EACH CIRCLE EQUALS _____ METERS		
NO.	DIRECTION/DEFLECTION	ELEVATION	RANGE	AMMO	DESCRIPTION
REMARKS:					
DA FORM 5517 R					

- Draw your unit sector or EA
- Draw main terrain features in sector(s) and range to each
- Draw subunit positions
- Draw subunit primary and secondary sectors of fire
- Draw weapon positions with primary sectors of fire for each
- Draw MEL for each weapon/ ammo
- Draw machine gun/cannon final protective lines or principal direction of fire
- Draw location of CP/OP
- Draw TRPs and RPs in sector



Squad Sector Sketch





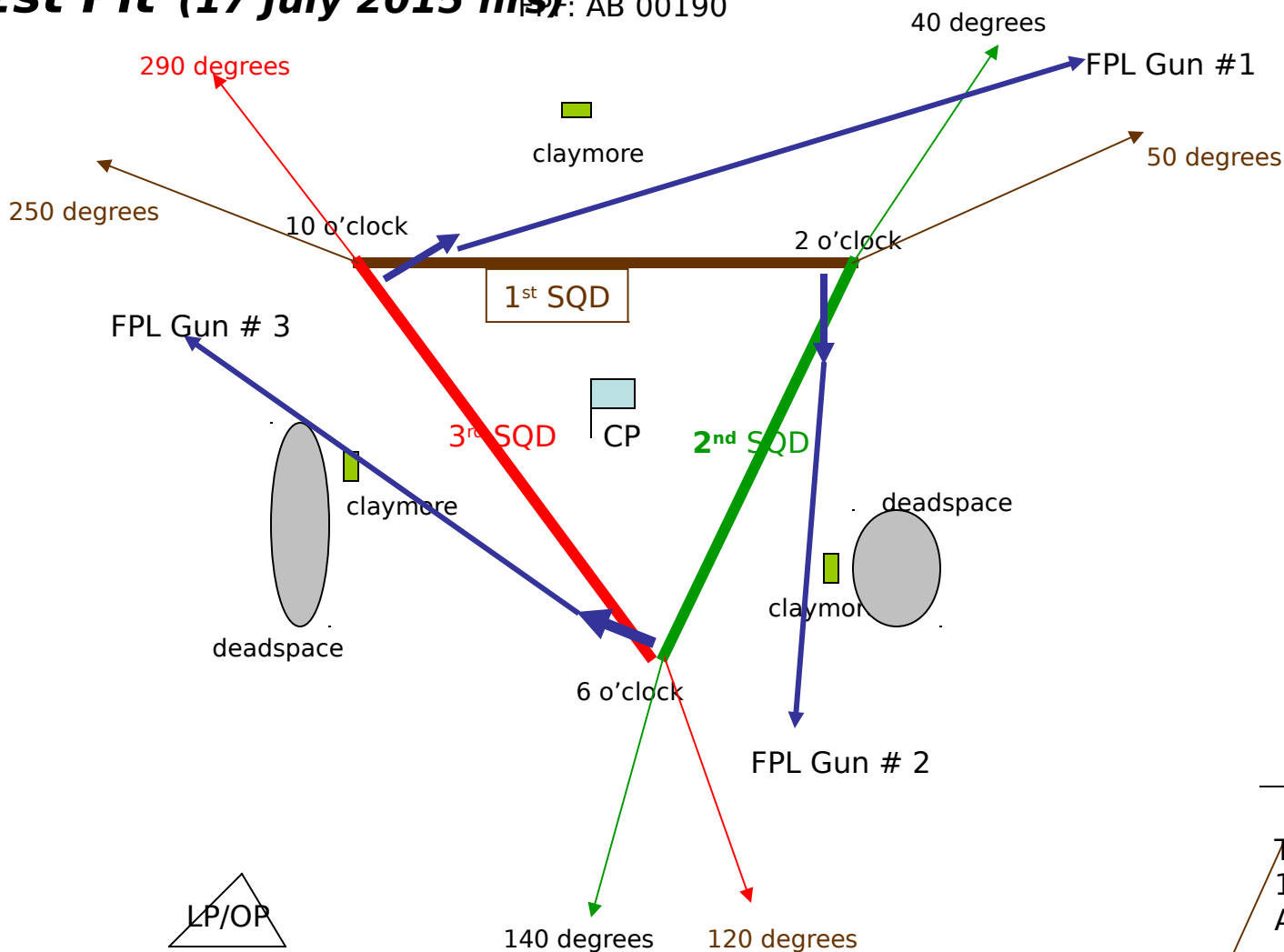
U.S. ARMY

Patrol Base (PLT) Fire Plan



B Co 1st Plt (17 July 2015 hrs)

REF: AB 00190



TRP # 1
240 meters
AB 00187



TRP # 2
190 meters
AB 00188



Conduct the AAR



- AAR-After Action Review
 - A professional discussion of an event, focused on performance standards
 - Conducted after all operations or missions
 - Enables soldiers to discover for themselves what happened, and why it happened
 - Used to sustain strengths and improve on weaknesses.
 - All soldiers and leaders input is valuable and encouraged
 - Leader must facilitate and maintain control to keep on track
 - **Not a gripe session and not used to place blame**

**Maintain thick skin, do not take comments personal, and do not belittle others*



Conduct the AAR



- Restate mission and concept of the operation
- OPFOR briefs mission and provide feedback
- Use chronological sequence/TLP's
 - “What happened?”
- Capture all relevant data/sustain and improve
 - “Why it happened”
- Leader summarizes lessons learned
 - “How to get better”

***USE THE LESSONS LEARNED ON YOUR
NEXT MISSION**